

Serial No.: 10/812,360
Amendment dated 11/29/2005
Reply to Office Action of 11/16/2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A body comprising a nut retaining apparatus in which to insert mounted thereon for fastening a bolt to the body, the bolt being inserted into a bolt insertion hole at an end surface of a the body from a direction inclined with respect to a tangent direction tangent to the body, to fasten the bolt to a threaded hole in the body, a nut member is retained in the inclined direction at a position which is continuous with a bolt insertion hole in the body, wherein the nut retaining apparatus comprises a nut retainer and a nut holder, which is provided on the nut retainer positioned at an insertion end of the bolt insertion hole in the body and against which the a nut member having a threaded hole abuts to bring a threaded hole of the nut member into communication with the nut retainer, and a the nut holder mounted on the body capable of for supporting the nut member at in the inclination angle inclined direction, and wherein the nut holder supports the nut member and is mounted on the body, thereby retaining the wherein the nut member is retained and supported in the inclined direction at a position of between the nut retainer and nut holder and continuous with the bolt insertion hole.
2. (Currently Amended) The nut retaining apparatusbody according to claim 1, wherein the nut holder comprises an engaging portion capable of engaging with the body when the nut holder is mounted on the body, and a side surface support portion which supports supporting a side surface of the nut member, and an end surface support portion which supports supporting an end surface of the nut member.
3. (Currently Amended) The nut retaining apparatusbody according to claim 2, wherein the side surface support portion forms a V-shaped groove.
4. (Currently Amended) The nut retaining apparatusbody according to claim 2, wherein the end surface support portion includes a bolt insertion hole which is in communication with the

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threaded hole of the nut member.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 1, wherein the nut holder is mounted to the body from below the body.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 2, wherein the nut holder is mounted to the body from below the body.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 1, wherein the nut holder is made of resin.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 1, wherein the nut retainer includes a side surface retainer ~~which comes into for~~ contact with a side surface of the nut member, and an end surface retainer ~~which comes into for~~ contact with an end surface of the nut member.

9. First Occurrence (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 2, wherein the nut retainer includes a side surface retainer ~~which comes into for~~ contact with a side surface of the nut member, and an end surface retainer ~~which comes into for~~ contact with an end surface of the nut member.

9. Second Occurrence (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 6, wherein the nut retainer includes a side surface retainer ~~which comes into for~~ contact with a side surface of the nut member, and an end surface retainer ~~which comes into for~~ contact with an end surface of the nut member.

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11. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 1, wherein the body is made of aluminum by die casting.
12. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 1, wherein the nut retaining apparatus ~~constitutes~~is part of a member coupling device for coupling a ~~pipe~~lateral frame member to the end surface of the body.
13. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 12, wherein the end surface of the body includes a positioning section, a bolt is fastened to the nut member, thereby bringing the ~~pipe~~lateral frame member into abutment against the positioning section, and the member coupling device couples the pipe member while positioning the ~~pipe~~lateral frame member.
14. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut retaining apparatus~~body according to claim 1, wherein a member coupling device for coupling a lateral cross member to a supporting structure ~~for supporting which constitutes furniture having a top~~ is constituted.
15. (Currently Amended) A body comprising a nut holder ~~in which to insert~~for fastening a bolt ~~to the body, the bolt being inserted~~ into an end surface of ~~a~~the body from a direction inclined with respect to a ~~tangent~~ direction tangent to the body to fasten the bolt to the body, a nut member is retained in the inclined direction at a predetermined position in the body, wherein the nut member is supported in the inclined direction, the nut holder is mounted on the body in ~~from~~ the inclined direction from the inserting direction of the bolt in a state ~~in which~~wherein the nut member is supported in the inclined direction, thereby holding the nut member in ~~the~~a predetermined position.

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16. (Currently Amended) The nut holder-body according to claim 15, further comprising an engaging portion capable of engaging with the body, a side surface support portion supporting a side surface of the nut member, and an end surface support portion for supporting an end surface of the nut member.
17. (Currently Amended) The nut holder-body according to claim 16, wherein the side surface support portion forms a V-shaped groove.
18. (Currently Amended) The nut holder-body according to claim 17, wherein the end surface support portion includes a bolt insertion hole through which the bolt can be inserted.
19. (Currently Amended) The nut holder-body according to claim 15, wherein the nut holder is mounted on the body from below the body.
20. (Currently Amended) The nut holder-body according to claim 16, wherein the nut holder is mounted on the body from below the body.
21. (Currently Amended) The nut holder-body according to claim 15, wherein the entire-nut holder is made of resin.
22. (New) The body according to claim 5, wherein the nut retainer includes a side surface retainer for contact with a side surface of the nut member, and an end surface retainer for contact with an end surface of the nut member.